

Stage 1 – Preparation

This is often the longest of the stages in the life of a community theatre director. Sometimes you choose the play, sometimes the play is offered to you.

Activities during this time may include:

- Analyzing and researching the script for theme and presentation considerations.
- Making changes or cuts to the script for reasons of content, casting, or length.
- Meeting with the producer or theatre committee
- Choosing the type of audition and selecting material for the audition.
- Meeting with designers to discuss production and design elements.
- Meeting with production staff and crew.
- Setting up a rehearsal schedule.
- Conducting auditions and callbacks.
- Casting the play.

You might think that casting the show is a directing must but there have been occasions where the director has left a show and the theatre group is looking for someone to take over the job with a full cast in place. In this case your preparation time is brief to the point of non-existent.

For easy access, the following pages contain the information for this stage:

- Preparation - The job
- Preparation - Rehearsal time calculations
- Preparation - The rehearsal plan
- Preparation - The rehearsal script
- Preparation - The unit breakdown
- Preparation - Audition planning
- Preparation - Audition publicity
- Preparation - At the audition